

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/750,808

Applicant(s)

FINAN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Hanh Phan

2638

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 10/26/2005.

2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 20, 21, 23, ,25-27 and 30-36.

3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:

1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached  
    1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

(b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of  
    Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

2.  Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),

3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
    Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
    of Biological Material

7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**HANH PHAN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Christopher L. Bernard on 11/14/2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

-In claim 27, lines 10-17, the phrase "according to Fibre Channel (FC) protocol; and wherein the redundant data paths include a first and a second data path, the multiplexing device includes a first and second multiplexing unit configured to transmit the outgoing data and receive the incoming data over the first and second signal path, respectively, and the activated link card selectively links the client device to each of the first and second multiplexing units for data communications" is now changed to -- according to Fibre Channel (FC) protocol; wherein the redundant signal connections include first and second link cards, each operable to communicate data between the multiplexing device and the client device; and a switching apparatus operable to activate one of the first and second link cards, wherein the activated link card conveys the outgoing data from the client device to the multiplexing device, and conveys the incoming data from the multiplexing device to the client device; and wherein the redundant data paths include a first and a second data path, the multiplexing device includes a first and second multiplexing unit configured to transmit the outgoing data

and receive the incoming data over the first and second signal path, respectively, and the activated link card selectively links the client device to each of the first and second multiplexing units for data communications --.

-Claim 28 is cancelled.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh Phan whose telephone number is (571)272-3035.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kenneth Vanderpuye, can be reached on (571)272-3078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-4700.

*Hanh Phan*  
**HANH PHAN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**